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Kansas Medicaid Director takes on new role
Scott Brunner to serve as agency's Chief Financial Officer

The Kansas Health Policy Authority continues to transition into its new role as an independent state agency and single state agency for Medicaid services. Today, Dr. Marcia Nielsen, Executive Director of the KHPA, has announced that Scott Brunner will resign from his post as Director of Kansas Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid) and will now serve Kansans as Chief Financial Officer for KHPA.

"One thing I noticed when I was first named Executive Director is Scott has a great talent for financial analysis and budgeting. And, of course, he understands our programs as well as anyone. With his immense experience in operations and budget analysis, I am looking forward to working with Scott in his new role with this agency," said Nielsen.

As Chief Financial Officer, Brunner will be responsible for the agency's accounting and financial operations, including cash management, internal reporting, federal reporting and budget development.

Brunner, Topeka, served as the Kansas Medicaid and Healthwave director since January 2004. Before coming to Medicaid, Brunner served as Deputy Secretary for the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services over budget development, financial reporting, business operations, and information technology. He also worked for three years in the Governor's Budget Office with responsibilities for the social services budget and state cash management.

Previously, Brunner worked for the Kansas Legislature's Post Audit Division, and he taught undergraduate courses in American Government and Policy Analysis.

Brunner earned bachelor's degrees from Emporia State University in Political Science and Public Administration and a Master of Arts degree in American Government and Public Policy from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Brunner will begin his new duties on October 16. Dr. Andrew Allison, Deputy Director of KHPA, will assume most of the duties and serve as Acting Director of the Kansas Medical Assistance Program.

"We are hopeful that the Legislature will support our request for increased number of staff, and at that time, we will look forward to adding additional positions and persons to our agency," said Nielsen.

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